Using Keygen

This is a quick guide to using ssh-keygen to create keys which don't require passphrases. This is used in environments where a script must perform operations without user input.

- 1. On each machine (e.g. tara.arc.nasa.gov and wow.arc.nasa.gov) type ssh somemachine.example.com and make a connection with your regular password. This will create a .ssh dir in your home directory with the proper perms.
- 2. On your primary machine where you want your secret keys to live (e.g. tara.arc.nasa.gov), type ssh-keygen -t rsa This will prompt you for a secret passphrase. Press enter and you will have a key with no passphrase. This computer will now be able to perform checkouts without being prompted for a password. This is a breach of standard security etiquette, so be sure that this account is protected with a strong password.
- 3. scp ~/.ssh/id_rsa.pub wow.arc.nasa.gov:.ssh/authorized_keys2 Copy the id_rsa.pub file to the other host's .ssh dir with the name authorized_keys2.
- 4. ssh wow.arc.nasa.gov This should now log you in without typing a password or passphrase. If that has worked, then CVS will also no longer require a password.

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